

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants amend the Specification and cancel claims 21-24.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 8, 2004

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. R. Keating", is written over a horizontal line.

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